



HEARING WITH SENATOR FRANK LAUTENBERG
RE: AUTO THEFT & ANTI-AUTO THEFT DEVICES
MAY 1, 1991

SPEAKING POINTS:

- * CAR THEFTS COST THE PUBLIC APPROXIMATELY \$7 BILLION A YEAR (INSURANCE AND POLICE WORK).
- * NEWARK LEADS THE NATION IN CAR THEFTS WITH OTHER URBAN CITIES NOT TRAILING TOO FAR BEHIND.
- * CALIFORNIA, TEXAS, FLORIDA, NEW JERSEY, ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, PENNSYLVANIA, MASSACHUSETTS, AND OHIO LEAD THE NATION WITH REPORTED CAR THEFTS.
- * APPROXIMATELY 1 OUT OF EVERY 42 CARS HAVE SOME AUTO-RELATED THEFT.
- * ALTHOUGH THE AVERAGE BANK ROBBERY INVOLVES \$2885, IT IS CONSIDERED TO BE A HIGH RISK CRIME. WHILE CAR THEFT IS CONSIDERED A LOW-RISK CRIME WITH THE AVERAGE VALUE OF A STOLEN CAR AT \$5117.
- * CAR THEFTS HAVE RESULTED IN INSURANCE RATE INCREASES, ADDING TO THE CAR INSURANCE CRISIS OUR STATE IS CURRENTLY FACING.
- * CASUALTIES DUE TO CAR THEFT
- * JUVENILE AUTO THEFT. THE MAJORITY OF CAR THEFTS ARE COMMITTED BY JUVENILES.
- * THERE HAS BEEN A 6% DECREASE IN AUTO THEFTS THIS YEAR: 15,674 IN 1989, DROPPED TO 14,777 IN 1990. IS THIS BECAUSE OF AUTO THEFT PREVENTION?

LO-JACK
KILL SWITCH
OTHER ANTI-THEFT DEVICES

- * MANDATING AMERICAN AUTO MAKERS TO INSTALL ANTI-THEFT DEVICES IN AUTOMOBILES WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE AUTO THEFT